

File Code: 2360-2

Date: October 2, 2007

Catherine Glidden
Environmental Protection Specialist
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Glidden,

The Forest Service has reviewed the Draft Report for Segments 1 and 2 by TRC Mariah for the STB PRB Expansion (Docket No. 33407) and this provides our comments:

1. The report notes that the work done was only for the ROW corridor and does not address indirect effects in the rest of the Area of Potential Effect (APE). As a result our comments are limited to the subset of the APE described in the report. We look forward to taking part in the development of how the remainder of the APE will be addressed.
2. Does the route surveyed match the final design plans, or is the route immutably fixed?
3. We look forward to a chance to review the report once tribal consultation has been taken into account. For example consideration of the eligibility of 48WE 1280 may be clarified based on the results of tribal consultation.
4. We concur with the evaluation of 48WE 1080 and will be interested in the development of mitigation measures (treatment).
5. The report maps show several sites, 48WE1075, 48WE1076 and 48WE1079 for example, which are not addressed in the report. What is the status of these sites?
6. We provisionally concur with the remaining determinations of eligibility, pending a field visit of two sites (48WE1347, 48WE1349) and the results of tribal consultation.

Sincerely,

/s/Misty A. Hays
MISTY A. HAYS
Deputy District Ranger

